

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ATHENS 04199 221554Z
ACTION EUR-12

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O R 221157Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5934
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 4199

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, CY, TU, US
SUBJ: MEETING WITH CYPRUS FOREIGN OFFICE DIRECTOR GENERAL

1. ENROUTE TO NEW YORK WITH PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU, CYPRUS
FOREIGN OFFICE DIRECTOR GENERAL GEORGE PELAGHIAS
CALLED ON ME AT THE RESIDENCE SATURDAY MORNING.
PELAGHIAS IS A PERSONAL FRIEND WHO, DURING MY TENURE
IN NICOSIA, WAS CHIEF OF PROTOCOL.

2. AMONG OTHER THINGS, PELAGHIAS EXPRESSED HOPE THAT
KYPRIANOU WOULD HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET PRESIDENT
CARTER WHILE IN THE UNITED STATES AND ASKED WHETHER I
COULD SUPPORT THE RECOMMENDATION WHICH HAD ALREADY BEEN
MADE BY EMBASSY NICOSIA.

3. I EXPLAINED THAT PERSONALLY OR OTHERWISE I WAS
RELUCTANT TO INTERVENE EVEN THOUGH I WAS CONVINCED
THAT SUCH A MEETING WOULD BE WORTHWHILE. PELAGHIAS
WENT ON TO GIVE ME HIS ACCOUNT OF THE CONVERSATION
KYPRIANOU HAD WITH THE PRESIDENT LAST NOVEMBER IN
NEW YORK. I AM GENERALLY AWARE THAT OUR VERSION OF
SPECIFIC SUBSTANTIVE POINTS DIFFERS FROM THE GOC'S.
EVEN SO, THIS MIGHT ARGUE FOR THE DESIRABILITY
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OF A MEETING. MORE IMPORTANTLY, IF KYPRIANOU IS TO
BE ULTIMATELY MOVED FROM HIS NEGATIVE POSITION ON
RESUMPTION OF INTERCOMMUNAL NEGOTIATIONS IT MAY BE
REALIZED SOONER BY SPECIAL U.S. ATTENTION THAN BY
ANYTHING ELSE. FURTHER, IT WOULD PARALLEL THE EFFORTS
WE ARE MAKING WITH TURKEY IN SEEKING TO INFLUENCE
THE PRINCIPAL PROTAGONISTS.

4. I HAVE DISCUSSED THE SUBSTANCE ABOVE WITH
AMBASSADOR STONE WHO CONCURS.
MCCLOSKEY

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